

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 remain pending in the application. Claims 1, 18 and 19 have been amended.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection:

Claims 1-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Van Loo, U.S. Patent 6,260,174. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The cited reference does not teach or suggest all of the elements of the independent claims. Van Loo teaches a method and system for packet-switched flow control of transaction requests that maximizes resource utilization and throughput, and minimizes latency. Van Loo's system controller provides dedicated transaction request queues and controls the forwarding of transactions from a processor to a slave. The transaction requests are automatically forwarded to an intended slave on the same address bus as the system controller immediately. The system controller determines whether the proper criteria are met for that slave to receive such a request, such as the slave's request receive queue is not full and that global ordering requirements are met. If so, then on a separately provided line, the system controller validates the request for immediate reception by the slave.

In contrast, Applicant teaches a method and apparatus wherein a record of one or more previous requests includes indications of which of a plurality of master devices has made at least one denied request. Applicant's independent claim 1 recites, in pertinent part:

“a record of one or more previous requests from the first master device and at least one additional master device, wherein the record is adapted to indicate which of the first master device and the at least one addition master device has had a previous request denied” (Emphasis added).

Independent claims 12, 18, and 26 recite similar combinations of features.

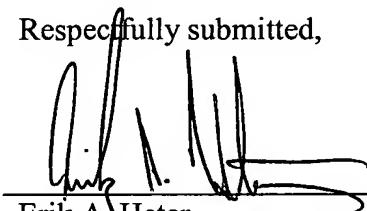
Applicant can find no teaching or suggestion of this combination of features in Van Loo. In particular, Applicant can find no teaching or suggestion of a record that is adapted to indicate which of a plurality of master devices has had a previous request denied as recited in the independent claims. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Van Loo does not anticipate the independent claims, and thus respectfully requests removal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) rejection.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5681-56600/BNK.

Respectfully submitted,



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